

Pensacola 20<sup>th</sup> September 1780

My Lord

I flattered my self when I wrote to your Lordships on the 7<sup>th</sup> of August last that my next Dispatch would be dated from the Chactaw or Chickasaw Nation, which I was then preparing to Visit in Obedience to your Lordships Orders, and I hope you will believe that Nothing but a Severe indisposition would have prevented my Accomplishing my intentions before this; And as I am now gathering Strength (altho' far from well) I shall certainly proceed as soon as Horses can be procured for my Journey.

The inclosed Copies of letters from M<sup>r</sup> Bethune my Deputy in the Chactaw Nation will communicate to your Lordship the present Temper and Disposition of those Indians. As soon as I received them I laid their contents before Major General Campbell and represented to him the Necessity of sending the supply of Ammunition required by M<sup>r</sup> Bethune to the Nation as soon as possible. His answer of the 14<sup>th</sup> [176] instant and the Subsequent Letters which have passed between us on the Subject, I have now the honor to submit for your Lordships information.

In perusing these Letters your Lordships will perceive my Sentiments relative to my intended Journey. Sentiments which my Zeal for the Kings Service

and long Experience in the Nature and Management of Indians have induced me to deliver with a freedom and Openness which I hope will not be Considered in an improper light, or imputed to any Sinister Views.

In my former Letter (a Duplicate whereof accompanies this) I submitted to your Lordship the little Expectation I have of Supporting my influence as His Majesty's Superintendant among Indians with whom I am but little Acquainted unless I am allowed a sufficiency of Goods to add weight to my Talks. I am aware My Lord, that the Indian Department <sup>1777</sup> has for several years been a very heavy Charge to Government, and it will ever be my wish to lessen the burthen to the Public by Observing the most rigid Economy but I must again beg leave to repeat, it will be an insurmountable difficulty for me to endeavour to preserve an Influence over Indians and to secure their Attachment to His Majesty, without having Presents, Provisions and Ammunition in my own Power, and not to be under the Necessity of Applying else where, the Indians in General have been long accustomed to receive lavish gratuities, even when their Services were not immediately called for, and they now consider as their due, what they formerly received as great favours. Therefore at the time when we are daily desiring them to



in readiness to give their Aid and Assistance; it may  
be attended with bad consequences to deal sparingly  
with them, least the Spaniards, who are indefatigable  
in their attempts to bring the whole Chactaw Nation  
over to their interest, should succeed in exciting them<sup>[177]</sup>  
to take up the Hatchet against us.—

For these reasons My Lord, it will I humbly  
presume, be evident, that altho' in Obedience to your  
Orders I go and reside among them, and tho' I use  
my utmost exertions, and strain every nerve, to secure  
their Affections, yet If I am supplied with nothing  
but a little Ammunition to add Weight to my Talks;  
It will be impossible for me to ensure Success.

I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect.

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient and

most humble Servant

Alex<sup>r</sup> Cameron

The Right Honorable Lord George Germain &<sup>ca</sup> &<sup>ca</sup> &<sup>ca</sup>

[18-7]  
Yassow 27<sup>th</sup> August 1780.

Sir

I wrote you some time ago by an Indian to which I begg to be referred - I am now to acquaint you that on the 4<sup>th</sup> Instant I conferred with the Chiefs of the Lower Towns, who in consequence of that conference have sent two parties against the Spanishs. Shulusowmastobie of Bastasha upper Town has also sent a party against them so that you'll perceive these two Districts have taken up the Hatchett

Having on my arrival in the Nation appointed the 21<sup>st</sup> to converse with the six Village Chiefs I accordingly mett upwards of 500 of them on that day - All the Spanish colours were struck And only three of the Chiefs appeared with Spanish medals and But one with his Red coat. after delivering my Talk, Chapiama of Sappochitto who accompanied me got up & supported and enforced it in a very masterly manner. Of the six Villages Bapetanichuma of Cheske-likbulcha first spoke. the substance of his Talk was, that he always loved the English Wished to excuse himself for what had happened said he was lost for want of me who used to keep him in the right path, wanted to be forgiven, and Blamed the Warriors for the Outrages that had been committed. he wanted to observe a Strict Neutrality and have a



[p. 104]

trade as formerly. upon which / He would give up his medal - Mingohurno of Nashubawaya spoke after him much to the same purpose; he was the first person in the nation who attached himself to the Spaniards - Poushaouma, who visited you since my departure and Give you his Small medal next arose, he addressed them thus. "You headmen & chiefs of the six Villages who have Spanish medals and are in their interest hear me; some time ago you led me out of the right path and made me leave my friends contrary to my inclination since that time I never slept sound till I returned to my friends again which I did without your knowledge. They took my hand in friendship and I was received as a child who had been long lost by his mother. and while I have breath I'll hold them fast. The Spaniards your friends, are liker Dogs than men I know nothing they have but Body Lice you who love them go & partake their Lice and Palmetto Mats with them. I prefer the company of an English dog to a Spanish king. I have taken the beloved man's Talk in all its meaning and I will endeavour to clear the path, upon which he struck his Tomahawk in the Ground at Capitinihurno's feet - Tushaoumatabie of English Tomaha spoke next not so violently but much to the same purpose; he was succeeded by a fellow who has  
[p. 105] always lived / about Orleans & the Lakes. called

Yattrahuma he argued against taking up the hatchet but wished for a neutrality however he said the contest would soon be over as the Spanish Governor was collecting all his forces together at Orleans and in a few days with the assistance of the Creeks he would smother the English out of Pensacola he said the Spanish Troops were encamped at the Village to receive the English Soldiers who went to them in great numbers. that Mr. Galvez wrote General Campbell not to drink all the wine before he got to Pensacola - He said I should not talk against the Spaniards as Mr. Galvez had a very great regard for me, wanted to see me much, said I was a man and that when he saw me he would not hurt me, and desired the Indians to bring me alive to him if possible but if I would not come it was their hearts to kill me - Capitanihuma of Nashu-bawaya on hearing the last part of his talk painted his face as Black as midnight and starting up said. Where is the man who will attempt to kill or tie my Friend? Is it you, or you, or you (pointing with his hatchet to each of the Spanish Partizans) Touch or attempt to touch a hair of his head and every man who wears a Spanish medal shall die I have taken the beloved man's talk and I will clear the path of these Spanish



Dogs, you have gott round pieces of Tin at Your breasts  
and think there make you Great men but I'll let you  
know they do not - / I am a Chief and a warrior. I  
& my warriors defended this part of the nation against  
the Creeks. The English made peace for you and now  
you talk of killing. go and kill squirrels it is all you  
are good for and all you dare kill When I was on  
my way to Pensacola to see my friends you told  
me it was taken & made me go to Mobile I mett a  
parcel of whiskered batts there who snatched my  
medal from me, and gave me one of theirs, but I  
never did & never will wear it I'll give it to my  
friends the English and support them while I have  
Breath. Should I be so unfortunate to lose them, I'll  
mourn their Loss as a young Partridge does the loss  
of its mother - Chappahuma fallaya next spoke,  
he wrought himself up to a rage against the Span-  
iards and declared war against them he spoke  
with great spirit and exhorted the Warriors to let  
their resentment fall first on the Chiefs who deceived  
them he has real merit - Pouchamattahapsa John  
McGillivray's friend who was dressed in a Spanish  
red coat & laced cap. Told the Chiefs that they had  
first taken the Spaniards by the hand, they had gone  
too far to recide and desired them - persist, he said when  
he was at marchae with John Mc Gillivray & James

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Robert they wanted him to kill the Spaniards which  
refused to do and then divulged their talk to mons:  
Ladie J. E. La Vielbeuffe he said all my talk was  
very good except killing the Spaniards which was  
like extinguishing the sun. He was answered / By <sup>[174]</sup>  
Mingo Gabarra who told him he exactly resembled  
his coat he had a good appearance but when nearly  
examined & searched he had a bad heart he told  
him he was a dark treacherous Villain to betray  
the secrets of his friends. We now know says he why  
you were so much caressed by the Spaniards, but  
a finer red coat & cap would make you betray  
them too: he then addressed himself to the Warriors  
and urged them to clear the path he reasoned  
sensibly and all his words were echoed by the  
Young men and assented to - I would be too tedious  
to give a minute detail of the whole debate which con-  
-tinued from eight in the morning till six in the  
evening - I have however the pleasure to acquaint  
you that a great majority declared in our favour  
and the most violent Spanish Partizans only want  
a Trade & neutrality the Young men unanimously  
declare in our favour and the women are violent  
Partizans of ours. I must now beg leave in the  
most earnest manner to recommend Capitini humo  
of Kaskubawaya to your particular attention he



is very worthy of a great medal not only on account of his attachment to us but his great influence in the nation Chappa humma Galaya Mingo mastabie & Yurkaoumastobie I must also beg leave to recommend for Small medals and a small medal & Commission for Poushaouma as you promised him. they are all deserving. The sooner your promise of sending Commissions to those you formerly gave Gorgetts to, is performed the better. — Permitt me here to observe that the Spanish Portizans only derive their influence from their medals & commissions. And as these give weight & influence in this nation I would beg that they may be freely bestowed on such as are recommended by our friends, as they will recommend such persons as they can depend on and who will be an acquisition to their party. Human Nature is the same whether savage or civilized every man thinks himself possessed of some abilities and nothing arouses resentment in the human heart more than the Idea of neglected merits. revenge of the imagined neglect immediately succeeds and where we might make a friend we arrive an enemy. at all events it is better to risk a little expence & trouble in hope of an uncertain friend than by a refusal ensure an inveterate enemy. Mingo humma of Nashubawaya is a living instance of this a neglect of this kind made him first

attach himself to the Spaniards to whom he has zealously adhered ever since -

By some people who passed yesterday from Natchez I am informed that Mr Wells who lately arrived there from Orleans brings information that the whole force of the Provinces are collecting at Orleans to go against Pensacola. any Person who Refuses is immediately put in Irons and the Dungeons are now filled with Germans & acadians - This corroborates the Indians information and it appears to me beyond a doubt that they meditate an attack on Pensacola soon in which they expect to be assisted by the Creeks - Their intention also seems to be to march from Mobile by land, and reduce the Forts by Blockade. I am informed they have no vessels of force - surely our fleet might talk with them on their way to Mobile - All the British Prisoners are gone in a Cartel to Jamaica -

The Indians are staggered and alarmed by the above information. they dread the reduction of Pensacola as an event which will deprive them of every resource, and leave them exposed to the resentment of the Spaniards without ammunition or any means of defence. they express their doubts & fears which from want of authority & information it is neither in my Power to solve or dispell.



They look anxiously towards you for a supply of Am. munition, which if they had, numbers of them would cheerfully go to the defence of Pomacola but that material want will deter them, as the reduction of that place without such supply, should they be active in its defence, would cause the Spaniards to attack & cutt them off. How to act in this critical & disagreeable situation I am entirely at a loss particularly as I do not find myself at liberty by my instructions to make any promises to them or take one step conformable to my own judgement or without pointed Instructions - I must therefore begg to be kept regularly informed & instructed as I do not wish to run any risk on my part. - I must now acquaint you that the four pices stronds and other articles sent here with me are entirely exhausted by the different meetings in the different districts of this nation, and suffer me to observe that however adequate such supply of presents might be to a month or two's residence in the Cherokee Nation in times of profound tranquillity, yet it is quite inadequate to answer any purpose in this large & extensive Nation at any time. But far more so at a time like this especially as they have now no trade and I must further begg leave to observe that neither abilities or address will long support any man's influence in an Indian Nation unless strengthened

by presents - Reason & Rhetoric will fall to the Ground  
unless supported by Strouds and / duffillo. Liberty is <sup>[p. 171]</sup>  
alone with Indians true Eloquence without which  
Demosthenes & Cicero, or the more modern Orators Burke  
& Daine might harangue in vain. But as I dare say  
we think by this time I have harangued too long,  
I shall draw to a conclusion, and only again begg  
that a supply of ammunition may be sent & the Trade  
stopd - at least till our enemies designs are known.  
Capitani humo & Chappa humma will soon be with  
you. I'll Endeavour to cause them do something  
that will be acceptable on their way - But tho' they  
should not. I begg again they may have the medals

I have sent Jeremiah Beckwith & Ball to  
the Mississippi / say / Dallen rouge with news papers &  
recommendations to gain intelligence. The above news  
and want of horses will prevent my Journey to the  
West I shall be extremely anxious till I hear from  
you, in the mean time nothing shall be wanting on  
my part to keep the Indians in temper & ready to  
act if required - I am with respect / Sir

Your most obedient &

most Humble Servant

Jerg<sup>r</sup>. Belthorne

Endorsed In M<sup>r</sup> Camerons of / 20<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1780. / (1)

[p. 172]



Yassow 4<sup>th</sup> September 1750

[P. 95]

Sir

I am a good deal surprized and concerned at not having received one line from you since my departure from Pensacola, the situation of affairs in this nation being such as required the most regular correspondence and pointed Instructions - They are now grown more critical than ever and I acknowledge myself entirely at a loss how to act

Since the Chadaus have taken up the hatchett against the Spaniards, some of the six Village Indians who were then at Mobile have been sent into the Nation to demand satisfaction. The Spaniards say they do not want any of the Indians killed but insist that they should put the Persons to death who urged them to take up the hatchett. They particularly insist on having my scalp, without which they say they'll destroy their Nation and they have offered Immense rewards to any Indian who will take it.

Yawla & the yellow Barnes seem but too ready to take the Talk. they have not only threatened me, but all the Traders in the Nation, and I am in hourly expectation of hearing Whitehead & Gardner who are in the six Villages are murdered By them. the disaffected Indians have not failed to propagate thro' the Nation a report that Induced the Indians to take

up the Hatchett against the Spaniards at a time they were destitute of Ammunition to have them cutt off and this report has but too much weight from the want of that article in the nation: How strongly these reports operate on a credulous / ignorant & jealous people your great Knowledge of Indians will inform you. Our best friends are staggered by them and it is a matter of doubt whether they would defend me should the dissatisfied Indians attempt to execute their threats. Whether they would involve themselves in war with the Spaniards, and in a civil war in their own Nation for the Love of my person, without even the means of defence is problematical & uncertain. Had I the necessary & essential supply of Ammunition I would not be under the smallest apprehension I am sure of a powerfull Majority in my favor and I am convinced they would defend me with their lives but without that supply I cannot reasonably expect it. I have always considered my life as a debt due to my King & Country when their Service required it. But to throw that away without even a chance of defending it, or rendering any service to my Country would be the height of madness & folly. Every hour I stay here is attended with danger and should I go away it would be imputed to fear, and I would rather die by the most excruciating torture, than the



Indians should imagine, I could entertain the most distant Idea of Fear. Besides that I promised not to desert them before they would agree to take up the hatchett.

The only manner in which I can proceed with safety & which is earnestly recommended to me by the Chiefs, is to engage a party to accompany me to Pensacola to escorte the Ammunition up, as the disaffected Indians threaten to seize it for their own use. This may occasion Government / some expence <sup>[p. 106]</sup> but if the Indians once imbue their hands in our blood it will cost much more <sup>(2.12)</sup> to reclaim them, if it can at all be done ~ I have sent Runners with Talks to the six Villages to know what length these two Journs (Yawlaw and Yellowcanes) mean to go, the return of these runners will determine me whether to proceed to Pensacola or not

I am informed that the horses sent down from the Lower Cherokees with peltry are now on their way up loaded with Goods for the Traders notwithstanding that I have represented the bad consequences that would be the effect of suffering any Goods to be imported at present - on the arrival of these goods they will disposed Indians will be fitted out for their winter hunt, they will go to their hunting Ground and the Nation will be left to the mercy & at the discretion of the disaffected Indians

a base Rabble who are always at home - and it will be impossible for me to detain any unless I can give them presents at least equal to their winters hunt, and even then but a few as they prefer living on good venison in the woods to Starving at home - Hence you will perceive that nothing but an entire stop to their Trade for this season and a large supply of ammunition will keep the Nation in good order and make them active in our interest - I send this Runner into you at the desire of the Chiefs, who think as well as I do that he is a safer express than a White man and very little as expeditious, especially / as the dissatisfied Indians threaten to kill any Persons they find traveling alone, he is to be with you in six days - [p. 96] I begg he may be well rewarded for his trouble, as it will encourage him as well as others to be ready in any future emergency - Should I be obliged to go to escort the ammunition up I shall take with me a few trusty fellows & If I can muster in the whole nation a few pounds of Ammunition. I'll pay the Dons a visit on my way - Had a proper quantity of Ammunition been sent up here along with me the Spanish party would have been Long ere now crushed and the Spaniards vigorously pushed by our friends - God knows what may happen now but if these Rascalls scalp me never make peace with them.



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I have the Honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient &

most Humble Servant

(Signed) Jerg<sup>r</sup> Belthune

5<sup>th</sup>

Since writing the within one Chiatom arrived here from the Checharaws who informs me that all the Indians who went out with Collett are returned except his sons. that an Arkansas Chief had been in there with offers of peace for that Nation from the Spaniards & Rebels and that some of the Checharaws returned with the Arkansas / to confirm it: should this story spread in this Nation and be confirmed I can assure you matters will be very disagreeable - If I could by any means I would go to the Checharaws to endeavour to stop or thwart the Intended Peace, but God knows I have more to do here than I can well attend to some persons of prudence and address should immediately be sent to that Nation as I doubt not but the American Traders settled there have no small share in Bringing about the peace - I begg to hear from you without delay &c

Jerg<sup>r</sup> Belthune

Endorsed In W<sup>m</sup> Cameron's of / 20<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1780. / (2)

[1780]

[199]

(copy)

Head 2<sup>nd</sup> Fort Snelling the 14<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1780

Dear Sir

I have laid your letter of this Date, and its Enclosures before General Campbell, whose conclusion and Recommendation on the whole is; that (if possible) you should endeavour yourself to go to the Indian Nations; And that what Quantity of Ammunition can be conveniently spared shall be furnished to accompany you; By your personal appearance among them he judges they might still be influenced warmly to espouse our Interest. - At all Events you may rely on some Ammunition, in proportion to what shall be found to remain in Store. -

In Regard to prohibiting and preventing the sending Goods to the Indian Nations; you must again apply to the civil power, and do it in Writing, delivered by your self thereby to be at Hand to advance Arguments and give Reasons for the Support of your Cause. - The General will on his part not give Orders to the Guards to permit any persons with Goods to pass, but to such Persons only as have obtained your Licence.

I am with Regard - D<sup>r</sup> Sir

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> humble Serv<sup>t</sup> -

(signed) James Campbell

M. B -

Alex<sup>r</sup>. Cameron Esq<sup>r</sup>. }  
Superintendent. &c. }



(copy)

Pennacola 18<sup>th</sup> September 1780.

[p 202]

Sir

I have received a letter from Major Barrybell dated the 14<sup>th</sup> instant in answer to mine of the same date covering Mr Bethune's intelligence from the Chactaws and it affords me great satisfaction to learn that your Excellency has consented to furnish what Quantity of Ammunition can be conveniently spared, for the Supply of those Indians. The Major has also signified to me your wish, that, if possible I should myself endeavour to go to the Indian Nations, as by my personal appearance among them, you are pleased to judge they may still be influenced warmly to espouse our interest.

I beg leave to assure you Sir, that nothing but the severe indisposition I have laboured under, would have prevented my setting out for the Indian Nations within my District long before now; in / Obedience to the Orders contained in Lord George Germain's Dispatch of the 5<sup>th</sup> of April last. And now that I find myself getting strength (altho' far from well) I shall certainly proceed on my Visit; as soon as Horses can be procured to carry the Ammunition and other Necessaries, unless I am prevented by a Relapse.

Upon this Occasion I must beg leave to renew my Application to your Excellency for permission to raise a Troop of Horse to escort me into the Nation,

and then to act with the Indians of my Department upon the plan submitted to you in my Letter of the 30<sup>th</sup> June last

The present Situation of Affairs in the Chactaw Nation appears to demand my Presence among them as His Majesty's Superintendent and that I should use every possible Exertion to bring over to our interest those Indians whom the Spaniards have engaged in their party, and in general to Encourage the Nation Warmly to Espouse His Majesty's Cause. To Effect this It will be necessary that I am supported, and that some degree of confidence be placed in my Experience in the Service of a Department of which I have been an Officer near twenty Years, and my Zeal for the Kings interest, which will naturally point out to me the Necessity at all times of Observing the most Rigid Economy in all my Expenses.

The raising of a Troop of Horse to serve under my Orders with Indians in the Nation can not fail of having the most desirable Effect. They will keep the Nation in some awe; Serve as Scouts to procure intelligence of the Enemys operations and when detached with Indians on Command will under proper Officers, Annihilate the Savages by their Example, to Act with Vigour and Cheerfulness in Executing the Service on which they are sent. Add to this they will



considerably Support my personal influence with the  
Indians, giving them / that Respectful idea of my im-<sup>portance</sup>  
portance, which it will be absolutely Necessary for me  
to Support among them All this I have Submitted to  
His Majesty's Secretary of State, in my Letter to His  
Lordship of the 7<sup>th</sup> Ultimo - an Extract whereof I have  
now the honor to inclose for your Excellency's perusal:  
And I can not avoid being firmly of Opinion that His  
Lordship will be convinced, that the Exigency of the Ser-  
vice at this Crisis will justify any unavoidable  
Extraordinary Expence, provided that the most rigid  
Economy is observed in the Disbursement of the pub-  
lick Money You without I am Empowered to judge of  
the Necessity of the Service and to Act in consequence  
my presence in the Nation, altho' Expressly Ordered  
by Lord George Germain will be so far from having  
a good Effect that it will serve to create in the  
Indians a distrust of my Promises, when they behold  
me in a state incapable of fulfilling them. - The  
directions I have received from Major Campbell rela-  
tive to an Application in Writing / to the Civil Power, <sup>for</sup>  
for a Stoppage of the Indian Trade from this place.  
I shall most certainly pay due attention to, at the  
same time I beg leave to return your Excellency my  
thanks for your declaration, that you will not give  
Orders to the Guards to permit any person with Goods

to pass, but to such Persons only as have obtained my  
Licence.

I beg your Excellency's decision on the Subject  
of this Letter as soon as Convenient, and have the Honor  
to be with great Respect. -

Sir

Your most Obedient and  
most humble Servant  
(Signed) Alex<sup>r</sup> Cameron

Major General Campbell

[p 25] Endorsed In Mr. Cameron's of / 20<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1780 / (4)



(copy)

Pensacola 19<sup>th</sup> September 1780

[ms.]

Sir

I have been honored with your Excellency's Letter of yesterday, in Answer to mine of that date and I beg leave to Express my concern that you cannot give the Sanction of your Authority or Approbation to my Proposal of raising a Troop of Horse to serve under my Orders with the Indians in the Nation within my Department. I shall nevertheless consider it my Duty to Submit and shall forbear to urge any farther Arguments in support of a proposal which I perceive your Excellency will not be convinced of the propriety of your Acquiescence with. At the same time, Permit me to Assure you, Sir, that my zeal for His Majesty's Service, alone influenced me to lay before your Excellency a plan which I will venture to assert, every man of Experience among Indians will confirm the Necessity of Adopting in the present Situation of Affairs. I must further presume to remark, that your Excellency appears / to put a construction different from any thing I intended by a general observation made in my said Letter; which you apply solely to the Troop of Dragoons; whereas my Assertion; that unless I was Empowered to Judge of the Necessity of the Service and to Act in consequence; my presence among the Indians would

serve to create in them a distrust of my promises when they beheld me incapable of fulfilling them; most especially had relation to my wish of being supported by your Excellency, in the Extra Expenses of the Department, while among them, for provisions Presents, Ammunition &c and not to any particular Service. —

Mr Bethune mentions that it had been recommended to him by the Chactaw Chiefs as the safest Method of proceeding, that he should accompany a Party of them to this place to Escort the Ammunition into their Nation and protect it from falling into the Hands of the Disaffected Indians, but says nothing respecting their furnishing Horses. However should that Officer have received my answers to his last Letters, he will /most undoubtedly not set out, as I have given him positive Instructions by no Means to quit the Nation. The only Method therefore of conveying the Ammunition &c without delay to the Nation, appears to me that of hiring Horses at this Place, for the Service, and which I have reason to hope I shall be able to Effect, provided I have your Permission

I must here mention that Fifty Horses will be necessary, (viz<sup>d</sup>) Twenty for the Ammunition and Thirty for the Stroude, Blankets &c whose Hire will be about Three pounds.



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Sterling each.

I have the honor to be with the greatest  
respect..

Sir

Your most Obedient and  
most humble Servant.

(Signed) Alex<sup>r</sup> Cameron

Major General Campbell

Endorsed In Mr Cameron's of / 20<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1780. / (6) /  
dr

[257]

Whitchall 7<sup>th</sup> March 1781.

Mr. Cameron.

Sir,

Your several Letters to Lord George Germain of the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, 18<sup>th</sup> of July, <sup>and</sup> of the Month of August & 20<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>d</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup>, with their Inclosures, have been duly received; and His Lordship directs me to express to you his Satisfaction in the ample Information they contain, of the State of Indian Affairs in the Department to which you have been appointed. His Lordship had the pleasure to learn, by a Letter from Major Gen<sup>l</sup>. Barrybell of the 31<sup>st</sup> of October, that the Chactaws which appeared at the time of your writing, to have been much divided / had been gained to our Side, which in the present Circumstances of West Florida is an Acquisition of great Importance, and redounds much to the Merit of Mr. Belthune, whose Zeal & Fortitude are much to be commended, and especially as your own Indisposition had prevented you from visiting that Nation at a Time so very critical & interesting.

Your delivery of the Vouchers of your Expenditure to Major General Barrybell was very proper, as without them he could not be a Judge of the propriety of your Requisitions



for Assistance; and as a further Supply of  
Presents was sent out by the Jamaica Company  
/ which sailed in November, he will be enabled  
to furnish you, sufficiently, and his Attention to  
the Safety of Pensacola, and His Majesty's Ser-  
vice, leaves no Room to doubt but he will  
afford you whatever appears to him to be neces-  
sary for those purposes. His Lordship hopes  
to hear you have perfectly recovered your  
Health & proceeded upon your intended Visits  
to the Chactaws & Chickasaws.

I am &c<sup>a</sup>

Wm Knox

[p 220]

Endorsed Des<sup>t</sup>. to / Mr. Cameron / Whitehall 7<sup>th</sup> March  
1781. / W A / Ent<sup>d</sup>.

[p. 21.]

Duplicate 3<sup>d</sup>Pensacola 31<sup>st</sup> October 1780.

My Lord,

When I had the Honor of Writing to your Lordship on 20<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>d</sup> Ultimate I intended, and was then Anxious to take my Departure from Pensacola for the Indian Nations in my Charge, but Unfortunately for myself I fell into a Relapse which have put it out of my power ever since to Attempt any journey; and when I shall be in a Condition to Undertake one, God Only knows; as I am told by my physician that my disorder seems not to be of a short duration, This Sir gives me the greatest Concern much more on Account of my publick Charge, than on my Own, I am however so far Happy [p. 22.] as to have it in my power to inform your Lordship that the Chactaw partizans whom Governor Galvez gained over to the Spanish Interest by Virtue of great Bribes and fear together have entirely Deserted him, Came down to Pensacola, and delivered up their Spanish Medals, Commissions and Colours to me; Their Talk upon the Occasion I have the pleasure to Transmitt your Lordship and I believe them to be genuine and the Real sentiments of the Authors They are now Re-united with their Nation and seem Anxious to give proofs of their Attachment to the British Interest - They are daily in small parties about Mobile, and Not a Spaniard can Venture out of Sight of the Fort

Inclosures not recd.



but they knock up and carry off his scalp. And within a few days they have killed and scalped one close to the Fort in sight of the Entry - The Spaniards are in the greatest distress being cooped up by the Indians, and it's my own Opinion as well as well as that of many others, That if the Indians were Encouraged and proper White Leaders who could speak their Language kept in pay with them, that they would have Routed the Spaniards from Mobile in a short space - They will not Venture for Water at Mobile but are Obligated to Cross the Bay to the Village on this side for every drop they drink, for fear of the Indians - Lately a party from here went towards the Village on an Expedition against the Spaniards, but having no Whitemen to Direct them, They attacked some French Houses about day Break, killed one Man and two Women and took prisoners 14 Men Women and Child - men White and Black and brought them here to me - When I upbraided them for this Act of Cruelty they Replied that they had no white person to Direct them, and hearing the people speak an Unknown Language they took them for Spaniards, untill they perceived their Error after Knocking one or two of them on the Head - They however Owned themselves Ashamed and sorry for their Mistake and delivered up their prisoners to me without fee or

Queward - Three days ago a party of 132 Indians sett  
Out from here for the Village; I sent a Choctaw Trader  
to direct them having no other but my interpreter who  
went also - General Campbell Ordered an Officer and  
Seven men of the Royal Foresters with them also, with  
Orders to Proceed to the Village and to endeavour to  
Dislodge 100 Spaniards who have taken post and Forti-  
fied themselves there. They sett out in great spirits  
with full hopes of Success - Last Night I Received a  
letter from my Deputy Mr Bethune which I inclose  
herin for your Lordships information and you will  
be pleased to Observe that he gives out as the Cause <sup>[p 225]</sup>  
of his Repulse the want of white Men to conduct and  
lead the Indians which evidently appeared to me  
would have been the case - I must now Observe to  
your Lordship that my indisposition laid me into the  
greatest Distress - Mr Bethune having my Orders to  
Endeavour to keep the Indians at home that they  
might be ready to give their Aid at this post in case  
the Spaniards should Attack us, Their compliance  
with Mr Bethune, and losing their Hunts by that  
Means lead them to think we had a Right to Cloath  
and Support them with Warlike Stores, But it Be-  
ing out of Mr Bethune's power to supply them with  
these Necessaries - They Repaired here in great gangs  
and my being here unable to leave it agreeable to



my Orders, They Applied to me for provisions as well  
as presents; I commonly Applied to General Campbell,  
[1215] but to no purpose / Alledging that all Visiting parties  
were to be supported by me - The last party mentioned  
to have gone out towards the Village three days ago he  
has at my Request Supplied with presents and pro-  
visions) If I had been able to have gone to the Nation  
I would have Sent these Indians to Pensacola to have  
been taken care of by General Campbell, as It would  
be out of my power to satisfy them in the Nation, he  
would then have been Obligated to Support these In-  
dians or let them Again Return to the Spaniards,  
Indeed I believe the latter would have been the case  
as Nothing but fear would Induce him to give them  
presents - I am Conscious of my Error in Exceeding  
the Sum Stated in my Annual Estimate Contrary  
to his Majesty's Commands, but I hope your Lordship  
will Consider and Represent that I was under the  
disagreeable Alternative of losing the Indians;  
[1216] or incur the censure of my Sovereign, / and Risk  
my credit; by Exceeding my Estimate to support  
and keep the Indians attached to Government -  
I hope your Lordship will believe that I would offer  
no Argument with a View to screen my self from  
Executing any Order or Instructions sent me by his  
Majesty, or even from any my superior Officer;

I have no aversion to live among Indians my Prei-  
-dence being long among them. But had my Health  
permitted me to have gone to reside among the In-  
-dians when I Received his Majesty's Orders for so  
doing, Triple the Sum Allowed me by Estimate  
would not have been sufficient to support my  
Character among them as their superintendant in  
Order to have any degree of Influence with them,  
and to have gone among the Indians about two  
Months ago, as was Required and my Situation  
then would, Oblige me to do, without, goods with-  
-out Men, without anything Necessary to support  
my talks. my presence would serve to give them <sup>[p. 129]</sup>  
not only a Dispicable Opinion of my own importance  
but also, to give the disaffected part of the Chactaws;  
an Advantage to display their Rhetorick of Repre-  
-senting the inability or Unwillingness of the English  
to assist them. Upon my First Appearance among  
them they would Expect that I should call them  
together, and as usual upon such Occasions, look for  
large Quantities of Goods to be distributed among  
them. and indeed Mr. Bethune informs me that they  
now Expect to be called to a Congress as they are  
informed that Col<sup>l</sup> Brown have sent for the Creeks  
and Cherokee to hold one at Augusta - If we should  
be fortunate enough to Retake Mobile I should not



have the least Objection to live high upon Tombigby River where I would be contiguous to both Nations; and where I could have my Supplies brought by Water, but in the present Situation of Affairs. my going to Re-  
[p 229] side Among the Indians with out being well Support- ed, would I am Confident be a disadvantage to Government, for the truth of which I am Ready to Submit to any person who has the least Knowledge of Indian Affairs -

The Indians of this department were never in a better disposition to serve Government than at present, but as my Indisposition will not permitt me to Act as my Zeal for his Majestys Service would lead me to, and for Want of being Supported not having it in my Power to maintain and Cultivate that good disposition they are in at present I would Begg that your Lordship would signify to his Majesty my Wish to Resign and if his Majesty would Condescend, and would at the same time be Graciously pleased to Allow me Half pay it would enable me to support the Dignity of a Gentleman a Character which I always maintained for these 17 years under his Majesty.  
[p 230] I am the Now in Need of your / Lordships patronage in this Matter, Having lost all I was possessed of at the commencement of the Rebellion in Carolina by the Rebels -

There are but few men but I could convince them of the Real Necessity of Granting Such Demands as I make of General Campbell for the Indians, but as he does not understand any thing of Indians or their affairs he thinks they are to be used like slaves or a people void of Natural sense. He will not be prevailed upon that presents are Necessary or that Indians have a Right to Demand any Unless he calls them Upon Actual Service or that it is Necessary to Employ any White men to instruct or Act with them Except the Deputy's and Interpreters allowed by Government his notions of these Matters differ Widely from other persons, who have any Knowledge of Indian Affairs, or had I followed his plan (which I must own he never laid down as the Rule of my Conduct) the Chacataws were lost to the British Interest before this day. General Campbell, differs in nothing with me that is [231] Not attended with Expence but where he thinks any is to be incurred there is no talking to him on the subject, In a time of Peace and Tranquillity I will venture to say that I can Manage the the Indians of this department with as little Expence as any man, but when they are Courted (by as they imagine a Powerfull Nation) we Cannot Reasonably suppose that they will listen to our talks, and Risque their lives and Country to serve us for Nothing-



If his Majesty should Acquiesce with my Request of Resignation as already specified I am happy, and Should he be pleased to continue me in my present Station I am also Happy, but I beg leave to Represent to your Lordship, at the same time, that Unless the Presents sent for the Use of the Indians are Consigned and given through me or my Officers of the Department our Continuance as the Officers to whom they were taught to listen and look to, Can be of little or no service to the Publick.

I have the Honor to be with profound Respect

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant

Alex<sup>r</sup> Cameron

Right Honorable Lord George Germain

Endorsed Pensacola 31<sup>st</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1780. / M<sup>r</sup> Cameron / Rx  
10<sup>th</sup> May 1781. / (Dup - Orig<sup>l</sup> not recd.) / Ent<sup>d</sup>

Duplicate 3dPensacola 30<sup>th</sup> November 1780

My Lord,

When I had the Honor to write your Lordship in October last I then mentioned to you that 212 Indians were gone out towards the Village to endeavour to dislodge the Spaniards stationed at that post and that Major General Campbell had ordered an Officer and Six Men of the Royal Foresters to join and march with them. About the 4<sup>th</sup> Instant they attacked the post at the Village about 8 O'clock in the Morning, the Spaniards had two four pounders mounted and pointing towards the path that leads from here, the Grape shot as well as the Report of these Pieces threw the Indians first into some confusion, but they traversed to Right and left and got out of the Direction of the Cannon / a few of the Spaniards made a sally upon which the Officer and Men of the Royal Foresters as well as Mr Pitchlin the trader whom I sent to conduct the Indians mounted their Horses which they kept at a little distance and made the Best of their way home leaving their Baggage behind. The Indians still advancing untill they came close to the Entrenchments and set fire to some Houses, but the fear of the Bayonet deterred them from any farther Attempt, They killed several scalped four with an Officer whose Regimentals



they Brought here as well as his scalp - They had only one Man Wounded - Upon their return they Seemed Much dissatisfied, Expressed their desire of Returning again to the Village, in Order to Destroy that post and that I would speak to the General, to send a party of Regular Troops With them that would Not be Affraid to fight the Spaniards, and that it would be of the Utmost Consequence to this place to have that post destroyed, and I was very Anxious my self to send them back that I might have them fairly and Strongly engaged with the Spaniards, that they might not be able to Recede from us and Return to the Spaniards on any Account, but the General could Not spare any Troops for that purpose and desired I would send them home as soon as possible; and on the same day I had the Honor of Receiving a letter from him to that Effect and to thank them for their spirited Behaviour, a Duplicate of which I inclose herein as well as that of my letter, and thanks to them on Behalf of Major General Campbell, as Requested and their Talk in Return - Your Lordship will be pleased to Observe that by this time we had Accounts by the Captain of a Spanish Polacca brought in here a prize, that a Reinforcement of 10,000 Troops had Arrived at the Savannah in September last and that Don Galvez was fitting out an Expedition with all possible

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Dispatch for the Reduction of Pensacola - The Number of Chactaw Indians here at that time was upwards of 700. which gave Real Pleasure to the Inhabitants to have so many Brave and Well disposed Indians at hand, and that more might be collected before the Dons should make their Appearance

From the talk which General Campbell sent in the Morning to the Indians I was convinced that he would not agree that they should Remain here, but as the most Eligible plan; I thought that he would Readily Consent to support and keep them on Tombegbie River My letter to him on that Subject and explaining to him the consequences of Refusing a few presents to a party of Indians who came down with Mr. Belknap I have now the Honor of Submitting to your Lordship for your Consideration - But to this He turned a Deaf ear and Order'd me to send off the Indians that were served out which I did. The Officers of the different Corps as well as the Inhabitants finding that the Indians were Allowed to Return Home grew very Clamorous on the Occasion, and all threatened to join in a Representation home against General Campbell, as his Conduct Intimated to them that he meant to give up the Province - Captain William Johnston of the Royal Artillery at length waited upon General Campbell and told him the common Report that



Circulated of him in sending home the Indians and if he did not order those remaining to be kept here untill we should have some security for the safety of the Place, that he would join the Rest in a Representation of his Conduct. This weighed with General Campbell and he having received Intelligence on the day following by the Captain and crew of a Spanish Brig Brought in here a Prize; that she sailed from the Havannah on the 16<sup>th</sup> October and was one off a fleet consisting of 6 Frigates and forty eight Transports with about Six Thousand Troops on board for the Reduction of this place) sent Major Campbell and informed me that Major General Campbell desired that I would send Runners to the Indian Nations in my department to Collect the Indians as well as to send after those Indians that were gone a few days before and now on their way home from here and bring them back if possible; and to send for, and engage as many, and such white Leaders to Conduct the Indians as I might think necessary for that purpose I Replied that I wished to have General Campbells Orders in Writing and I would then do whatever was in my power. but Observed that I was Apprehensive that the first gang of Indians who Returned home from here on the 8<sup>th</sup> Instant would give Out General Campbells talk of the 7<sup>th</sup> Instant Upon their Arrival in the Nation and that

in consequence thereof the Indians would all turn out into the Woods a hunting and that I was doubtful that those who set out from here but two days ago, would not Return not being well used by General Campbell during their stay and my doubts did not beguile me so far. I am moreover affraid that the Inclosed letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> will be the cause of our having but few Indians from that Nation to Assist us on the present threatening Occasion. It is not my Inclination my Lord to Reflect upon Major General Campbell's Conduct and I make no doubt but as he is an Experienced Officer He is Also a good one in the Line of his Profession; But with regard to Indians, He certainly takes the Wrong Steps to make them Useful to Government

My Strictest Charge to my Deputy Mr Belthurne last Spring and Summer was to Endeavour if possible to keep our friendly Indians from hunting and to send as many parties of them to Harass the Spaniards as lay in his power - Such Steps seemed to me Absolutely Necessary not altogether with hopes that they would be able to Rout the Spaniards from our Neighbourhood, but with a View to Engage and involve them so deep in War; that they would not be able to treat for peace or Commerce with them while we kept possession of any part of the province, and able to Support them. Mr Belthurne took every



Method that prudence and his knowledge of Indian Affairs suggested, He wrote to me 12<sup>th</sup> August Representing his Situation for want of Ammunition, and to stop the trade, proposing at the same time to send out several parties under White Leaders (Some of the Indian Traders) and to lead a party himself. I laid his letter before General Campbell which he Disapproved of, as such Measures would perhaps be attended with Expense; particularly the sending Ammunition to the Nation, and Employing White Men to Lead the Indians, In consequence of this answer I wrote to Mr Bethune to Employ no Whitemen to take any other steps that [220] would be attended with Expense to the Crown, as General Campbell would not pay for such Expenses; and that I had already Exceeded my Estimate farther than was safe for me to do - The Ammunition is not yet sent to the Chactaw Nation, Notwithstanding General Campbells promise and mine in consequence of his. He is for Establishing a plan, that whatever Ammunition Government will bestow on the Indians, they are to furnish Horses and Carry such Ammunition into their Respective Nations - This the Chickasaws agreed to and sent down Horses and a strong party to Convey their Ammunition to their Nation, But they are a Rich people and have a great Number of Horses and Black Cattle Among them.

The bhactaws are a poor Ragged Set without Horses or any other Equip<sup>t</sup>. Those who have horses Among them would not send them for the publick Service. But if any of them should Carry a load of Ammunition on his horse he would keep it for his own private use and never suffer it to be put into a Magazine for the publick Ammunition has <sup>been</sup> alwise sent by the Superintendant into the different Indian Nations and lodged with the Commissioners to be issued as he judged most proper for the publick service.

Breaking through Rules which were formerly Established for the Benefit of the Indians, will not suit at this time of trouble; as they are not so void of sense as not minutely to Observe all these Matters. To Acquire and Cultivate the Affections of Indians My Lord requires a Study and Uniform Behaviour, and Rules and Regulations for their Government Ought to be introduced Only, when we have it in our power with safety to enforce them. General Campbell is very Generous to Indians when he thinks their is danger near but they ought also to be well treated while we apprehend danger at a greater distance, tho' not with presents, as when called upon Actual service - I would not have dwelt so long upon this subject my Lord but am afraid the Indians Wavering in their disposition may take Umbrage at their being Altogether so well treated as formerly, and not having White Leaders to keep them continually in



Action. that again they should Return to the Spaniards  
and that I should be blamed for losing them, Merely for  
Want for Want of having that Power in my hands, as  
Superintendent which is now Vested in Major General Campbell.

Parties of the Upper Creek Indians are continually  
here, and as General Campbell or Governor Hunter will  
take no Notice of them, I think it incumbent upon myself  
to take care and supply them with provisions, a little  
Ammunition and now and then a few presents; This has  
increased my Expences much, But I hope that it will  
appear to your Lordship that there was a Necessity for  
using them friendly; and that you will so far at least,  
approve of my conduct - The Chickasaws are constantly  
Hunting the Mississippi and Cherokee Rivers for Vir-  
ginians, French and Spaniards and every now and  
then some of each are knocked in the Head. They are  
however so far from us that We cannot expect their  
Assistance at a short Warning and particularly at  
this juncture of Time which is their hunting season,  
and No doubt they will avail themselves by it.

I have the Honor to be with profound Respect,

My Lord/ Your Lordships

Most obedient and/ Most humble Servant

Alex<sup>r</sup> Cameron

Right Honorable Lord George Germain

[226]

Endorsed Pensacola 30<sup>th</sup> Nov: 1780. / M<sup>r</sup>. Cameron. / R<sup>x</sup>

3<sup>d</sup> May 1781. / (Dup. Origl. not recd.) / (3 Inclosures) / Ent<sup>d</sup>

Duplicate 3<sup>d</sup>

Pennacola 8<sup>th</sup> November 1780

[p. 251.]

Dear Sir,

I had the pleasure of Receiving your Letter of yesterday and agreeable to General Campbells Orders I talked to the Indians and offered his thanks and the Obligations he was Under to the Indian Party that went against the Enemy at the Village for Behaving like Brave men and Warriors. This they Accepted of seemingly with pleasure and desired that I would acquaint the General, as follows

" Our intention when we went off, was to cutt  
" off the Spaniards at the Village that they might have  
" no Opportunity of Surprizing or killing any of the  
" English Near Pennacola and for to confine their force  
" to their side of the Water at Mobile that we and the  
" Chickasaws might the more easily come at and distress  
" them at that place; but as we did Not Effect our purpose  
" at the Village and have now got Liberty to Return  
" home we hope, that General Campbell, will send for the [p. 252]  
" Creeks to Rout the Spaniards from the Village or at least  
" to Harraass them so as to keep them within their Trenches  
" and not to be able to get any Battle or born to live  
" upon. They concluded with desiring me to acquaint  
" the great Warrior General Campbell, that they are  
" not satisfied with the quantity of Ammunition he allowed for them. that their demands of 2 to 3 Mann



was little Enough as they did not see any prospect of our  
sending any Ammunition to their Nation for their Use  
to carry on the War that they were well informed there  
was no scarcity of Ammunition at Pensacola that the  
great King had sent plenty for the use of the Garrison -  
plenty for the Red Men and that Merchants had a great  
Quantity for sale which they would not Refuse to the Gener-  
-al if he had demanded it - that they did not want the  
Ammunition for their own Use, that they Wanted to throw  
away some of it upon the Spaniards, and perhaps throw  
[p. 253] away some of their lives at the same time for the sup-  
-port of the English. I Request Sir that you will be  
pleased to lay their talk before his Excellency General  
Campbell as well as the inclosed Returns for Presents  
and provisions

I have the Honor to be

Dear Sir

Your Most O<sup>b</sup>d and

Most Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

(Signed) Alex Cameron

James Campbell Esquire Major of Brigade.

[p. 254] Endorsed No 2 / In Mr. Camerons of / 30<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1780

[p. 255.]

Duplicate 3d

Pennacola 8<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1780

Sir,

Yesterday afternoon I was made Acquainted with your Resolution in Regard to giving the Indians no more presents, I am far from wishing to Recommend that any Expence to the publick should be incurred by them, but what I think indispensibly necessary for the good of his Majestys Service, and I begg leave to give as my Opinion that Refusing presents to the Indians at so Critical a Conjuncture may be very hurtfull to his Majestys Interest, and More particularly as they have been eye Witnesses to our delivering presents to the Indians of the Six towns who deserted our Cause, Laid hold of the Spaniards, listned to their talks for some time and Robbed our traders, and but just Repented and Returned to their former Allegiance. It seems to me sir that at present our principle dependance is on the Indians for the protection of this place in case of a Visit from the Spaniards, and it is not improbable but they may have a design of that kind in View - in times of Tranquility the Indians might be sent off and little Notice taken of them, but at present I think that there is a Necessity for cultivating their Friendships by acts of Generosity and good Usage. I will now take the liberty to Acquaint your Excellency that instead of telling the Indians to Return home and mind their



Hunts it might turn out more to our Advantage that they would stop on the Tombigby River where they could be supplied with provisions at a little Expence and defend that settlement and the great quantity of Corn in it They would also Harass and distress the Spaniards by being continually in parties about Mobile to take scalps, and carrying off all the cattle in the Neighbourhood which is their main Support, and be Ready at a Call to join us if we should want their Assistance, but should the Indians be allowed to go home and hunt we need not Expect their Assistance under three Months Warning and if the River is abandoned, the Spaniards will Establish / a Post there support themselves with the provisions we leave for them and endeavour to cutt off our Communication Entirely with the Indians -

The Indians sir yesterday gave me a talk to the above purport and desired that as we loved our Ammunition from them here that we would send a plentiful Supply of that Article to be lodged for their use at the Tombigby I shall request your Answer to this letter. Sir that I may inform the Indians with what they are to expect

I have the Honor to be with much Respect / Sir

Your Most Obedient and / Most Humble Servant

(signed) Alex<sup>r</sup> Cameron

Major General Campbell.

[P-199]

Endorsed N<sup>o</sup> 3. / In Mr Camerons of / 30<sup>th</sup> Nov: 1780.

Duplicate 1Pensacola 10<sup>th</sup> February 1781

My Lord,

I have had the Honor of Writing your Lordships on the 30<sup>th</sup> November last in which I had Represented the State of Indian Affairs in my Department to that period I send this letter by Land to Charlestown in South Carolina in hopes of its having a safe conveyance from there to your Lordship. If our Fleet should sail from this place soon, as they propose to do, I shall transmit Duplicates of said letter by them. I am Happy to have it in my power to inform your Lordships of the Spirit and Attachment the Indians have Shown towards us Since my last. General Campbell in about the latter end of December seemed Satisfied that the Spaniards had no power to hurt us here and therefore thought it best to Order presents to be made up for the Indians in Order to send them home Satisfied, the Indians were very Happy when I told them of his determination but they still Expressed their Wish of Reducing the post at the Village before their Departure this I informed General Campbell of but he would not be persuaded that there was any Troops at the Village the Indians insisted there was on which General Campbell desired the Indians, that they would Remain quiet for two or three days and that he would find out the Truth of it, but the Night following a party of the Indians who were out Scouting returned and



Corroborated what the Indians had been saying before;  
The General sent for the Headmen of the party and Examined  
them more closely upon the Subject and when he could no  
longer doubt the Truth of the Report General Campbell  
Ordered a Detachment from the different Corps to be in  
Readiness; but as General Campbell will give your Lord-  
ship a particular Account of this little Unfortunate  
Affair I shall only confine my self to inform you of  
the Behaviour of the Indians, 420 Indians crossed the  
Perdido Twelve Miles from here on the third of Ultimo  
Under the Command of Messrs Bethune and McIntosh  
both my Deputys the Interpreters and one or two more  
Whitemen, and Marched in Front all the Way the In-  
dians were Ordered to take Post before day Break on  
the morning of the 7<sup>th</sup> between the Water of Mobile Bay  
and the Fort on which it stands, and Colonel Hambleton  
promised Mr. Bethune that he would Order the drum  
to beat for a General Storm but as there was no Signal  
of any kind which (I suppose was Occasioned by the  
death of Colonel Hambleton) Mr. Bethune did not at-  
tempt to Storm but with his Indians kept firing at  
Every Spaniard that they could see, a Body of them  
at length Pushed out of their picketts and Ran down  
the Bank for the Water where they had only one boat  
at Anchor, but the Indians shot them all down and  
followed them Chin deep in the Water to get their

Scalps which they Brought Back here to the Amount  
of Forty or Fifty. Upon the whole my Lord, the Indians  
as well as the Officers who led them Behaved with great  
Resolution and Coolness during the attack, and they  
Remained some short time at the place after the  
Troops were Repulsed, and not a Shot of their Am-  
munition but was Expended before they Came away; <sup>[p. 162]</sup>  
Some of the Headmen begged of the Troops to Return  
again to the Charge and that they did not doubt  
but they would carry the place. We have two thirds  
of the Choctaws in our Interest and if I was not too  
much afraid of incurring more Expence to Govern-  
ment I would have had the whole of them in our  
Interest last Fall. This I mentioned several Times  
to General Campbell but his Answers were Commonly  
that I might do what I thought proper with the  
Indians, that all his concerns with them were to  
make a Requisition to me for as many Indians as  
he thought Necessary when wanted, and that he  
would pay them only then, for their Services; Many  
of the Principle Gentlemen of this place begged that  
I would spare no Cost in getting over the Indians  
to our Interest and even promised that if Govern-  
ment should not pay for any Expence that I  
would incur upon that head, that they would  
enter into private Obligations to pay all the Expence



Such an Object would Amount to, But altho these  
Gentlemen deserved Applause for their Loyalty and  
Generosity, I could not with propriety Except of their  
offers, While General Campbell was here and / I was to  
be Regulated Alone by him - Never was Indians better  
Affected to Government than the Chactaws now in  
our Interest - They are Ready and Willing at all  
Times to turn out against the Enemy, and I must  
realy say of them that they Behave with more Civility  
and Sobriety than any Indians I ever knew; but the  
Want of proper White Leaders Among them is now very  
evident to every person, I am not however without fear  
of losing some of them, General Campbell will give  
himself no trouble in humouring or Cultivating their  
Friendships, and I have it not in my power to use them  
as I am sensible they Deserve - I can make no Apolo-  
gy My Lord for incurring a debt above the Sum  
Annually allowed me by Estimate Except Necessity  
which alone was the Cause being sensible that I must  
Either loose the Indians or incur Expenses Contrary  
to my Orders I own my self Culpable in this Breach  
yet I flatter my self when your Lordship will Con-  
sider my Situation that you will rather / approve  
than censure my conduct and Recommend my Bills  
for payment, I have Transmitted my Accounts to Messrs.  
Graham & Simpson for the Expenditure of my Estimate

and the Exceedings to be laid before your Lordships from the 1<sup>st</sup> July to the 31 December following. I have also taken the Liberty to draw upon the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury for my Estimate for the present Six Months from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1781 to the 30<sup>th</sup> June following as well as for the Amount of the Exceedings or debts incurred for the last Six Months

Your Lordships will be pleased to Observe by the Inclosed Copy of a letter dated the 27<sup>th</sup> January last from me to Major Campbell and a copy of his letter to me in answer to mine which I have also the Honour to Inclose you, That most of these debts were incurred by General Campbells Orders which he would not afterwards pay Other debts I have necessarily incurred by the Indians of Colonel Browns Department and Your Lordship will Observe that there is an account which was/ incurred by Colonel Stuarts Orders <sup>[see]</sup> in his life time and as the Holders of the Accounts saw no Other Method of its being paid they prosecuted me for Certifying the Account and Recovered Principal and Costs of me in the Court of Common Pleas and I believe more Suits of the kind will follow unless I shall make up Matters with the Holders of them M<sup>r</sup> Salt is in the same predicament by Certifying Accounts incurred by Colonel Stuarts Orders and much to the same purpose, These



3 / Extraordinary Accounts and the purchasing of some provisions for the bucks as well as for the Chactaws &c. have accumulated the Expenses of my Department. The Chactaws here are about 744 a Return of whom I have the Honor to inclose your Lordships There is about 400 more upon the Tombigby River who have been there upwards of a month Ready to join us here but the Waters were so high that they cannot affect it just now, General Campbell I believe now Regrets that he had not kept the Indians on Tombigby River as I proposed to him tho he does not wish to confess the propriety of any measure but what he has the planning of himself -

[p. 116]

I shall conclude this letter with informing your Lordships that I have neither provisions or presents now Remaining and how I am to get these Unavoidable Necessaries out of my Estimate will appear Obvious to your Lordships -

I have the Honor to be with profound Respect

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant

Alex<sup>r</sup> Cameron

AD

The Chickasaws as I had the Honor to inform you in a former letter are all out a hunting and had

the Spaniards Attached this post as they intended, we  
could not have had any Assistance from that Nation  
before it was too late - This My Lord is the Consequence  
of allowing a plentiful Supply of Goods for their  
Trade - They must purchase Cloathing and must  
also turn out to hunt in order to pay for it

The Creeks were also Hunting and Altho  
General Campbell has sent for them twice he has  
not been able to get one of them except a few  
stragling Indians who commonly kept in our  
Neighbourhood - So that upon the whole the Choctaws  
are our Chief Support - and those of them who live  
near and receive presents from the Spaniards by  
Neutral and do not molest us.

A. b.

The Right Honorable Lord George Germain

Endorsed Pensacola 10<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> 1781. / Mr. Cameron. /  
Rx 3<sup>d</sup> May. / (Dup. Orig. not used.) / (3 Inclusions) / Ent<sup>d</sup>

[p. 260]



Duplicate 1.

Return of Choctaw Chickasaw Alabamas and Creek  
Indians Remaining at Pensacola the 1<sup>st</sup> February 1781—

What Date	What Towns	Number of Indians each town	Total N <sup>o</sup> Indians
February 1 <sup>st</sup>	Yassaw	41	
	Bassarue	43	
	Mucklusa	41	
	Buglugloe	16	
	Otochfoloyah	16	
	Bepucheto	44	
	Chunkey	18	
	Yimbighy	50	
	Apetepugloe	42	
Choctaws	Yenauby	43	
	boncheto	7	
	Kiuarie	34	
	Tushubanya	30	
	Senearra	33	
	Chickasaw Bay	74	
	Lukyahatta	63	
	Cousas	28	
	Boustasas	24	
	Abeca	53	
	Helitissa	44	
	Chickasaws	6	
	Alabamas	20	
	Creeks	18	
			788

Alex<sup>r</sup> Cameron.

Endorsed N<sup>o</sup> 3 / In W<sup>m</sup> Cameron's of 10<sup>th</sup> Feby 1781

[p 207]

Camp on the Yallahusie River Upper Creek }  
27<sup>th</sup> May 1781. . . . }

My Lord

No doubt your Lordship will receive the particulars of Pensacola's being added to the Spanish Dominions ere this can reach your hand. - I shall not therefore Trouble you with a repetition of what I know of this Subject; But only mention what Concerns, and the behaviour of the People under my Own Charge.

On the Fifth of March about 300 Chactaws who were sent for, and lay at Pensacola for its defence, were served out with some Presents, and on the day following they took their Departure for their Nation. - On the Sixth Gen<sup>l</sup> Campbell received Advice from Jamaica that the Spaniards were upon their Way to Attack Pensacola. - Brigade Major Campbell came to my House and not finding me at Home he left M<sup>r</sup>. Rose the Indian Store Keeper, to Inform me that it was the General's Orders, that I would send after the Indians and use every means and methode, to prevail upon them to return once more. - That now we should have Business enough upon our hands, that the Spaniards talk'd of Invading us, which was not very likely to be the Case, but that we were determined to invade them, as a Reinforcement of Ships and Men, were <sup>[sent]</sup> Actually sett out / from Jamaica, and Among them was



Camp on the Chulapussie River Upper Creek } [100]  
27<sup>th</sup> May 1781. . . . }

My Lord

No doubt your Lordship will receive the particulars of Pensacola's being added to the Spanish Dominions ere this can reach your hand. - I shall not therefore trouble you with a repetition of what I know of this Subject; But only mention what Concerns, and the behaviour of the People under my Own Charge.

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3  
a Ship Loaded with Presents for the Indians which  
no doubt would all Arrive soon in Pensacola. ~ On  
the Seventh I set out after the Indians and Overtook  
them about 18 Miles from Pensacola where Mr Belknap  
my Deputy for that Nation, was dividing some Rum  
among them - I spoke to them, and told them that  
the Spaniards still threatened to Invade us and  
that I believed that they would make their appear-  
-ance in a few days; I told also that we expected a  
Reinforcement of Ships and Men, that for my part  
I would not assure them of this News, as we were so  
often disappointed. ~ Frenchmastake Observed I was  
right to say nothing on that Subject as it was a Com-  
-mon Talk for twelve Moons past. - And as to his going  
back to Pensacola said, I never threw away any Talks  
that you gave me; but I will not Answer for my People's  
returning, for we received but little Provisions, and the  
promises the Great Warrior made us were for nothing.  
However you may speak to them as they are here and  
will answer for themselves ~ They seemed dissatisfied mak-  
-ing the same excuse as their Leader and only about  
150 of them returned with me and as many more went  
Home. - On the Ninth when the Spaniards arrived I  
had only about 400 Chactaws in Town, I marched  
them to the Bluffs which is the Entrance of the Harbour -  
During our stay there the Indians behaved remarkably



well took one Spanish Prisoner and several Scalps -  
My Letter to Genl Campbell which is here inclosed for  
Your Lordships Perusal will shew you their Temper at  
the Bluffs - some were going home, after we retired to  
Pensacola and some coming to our Assistance, so that  
we kept up constantly about 500 Indians in which  
were included 40 Creeks and 8 Chickasaws. - The  
8<sup>th</sup> April 1782 Mr Gillivray one of Col<sup>l</sup> Brown's Deputies,  
with about 40 Indians Arrived, and in four days after-  
wards about 40 more Arrived - The Indians in General  
as well as their Officers behaved with great Spirit and  
Attachment; And had we but as many more of them,  
particularly on the 30<sup>th</sup> March we would have driven  
the whole Spanish Army into the Sea - no men could  
behave better than they did that day - They drove  
part of the Enemy out of their Lines, took 4 Drums,  
Muskets, Scalps &c - In a Talk of the 1<sup>st</sup> of April  
which I here submit to your Lordships, you will ob-  
serve what they say on the Occasion - Frenchman-  
tabie seem'd in a Passion for not being supported  
with some of the Troops - but after Genl Campbell  
promis'd that they should be supported by the Troops  
for the future - The Chief promis'd me for themselves <sup>[110]</sup>  
that they would never leave Pensacola before its fate  
was determined, in which they were as good as their Word -

Genl Campbell often thank'd them, and declared

that he never would Imagine that Indians could be brought to such Order and spirited behaviour as the Chactaws were, Upon the whole I flatter myself that Your Lordship will be convinced that nothing in my power was left undone for the defence of Pensacola. as I kept my health during the most part of that period. And had my Advice been regarded by General Campbell in Time, instead of having 500 I should have had 2000 Indians to oppose the Spaniards at the Siege of Pensacola.

The Chactaws and Chickasaws are now returned Home determined never to listen to any Spanish Talks, and if ever we intend to retake West Florida, they will be of the outmost service on the Occasion. — Messrs. Bethune & Mr. Intosh my Deputies for these Nations have Conducted the Indians to their respective Homes, and to keep them well affected and ready to Act for his Majesty when required. — These Indians are in the Outmost disposition for Goods among them and particularly Ammunition, and altho sending a Quantity at such a distance from Georgia to their Nation must be attended with Great <sup>[man.]</sup> Expense, yet even for what they have already done the Crown must supply them, and I think there is a Necessity for my taking this step upon myself without loss of Time.

I am now my Lord so far on my Journey to Georgia, Thence to Carolina, and if I should obtain Your Lordship's permission, I would be extremely glad to bring



the Atlantic in the Fall in Order to settle my little  
Matters in London, But not before I would call the Chas.  
-law and Chickasaw chiefs together at Augusta in Order  
to make them some Presents, or send them upon any  
service that Lord Cornwallis or the General Command-  
-ing in the Southern Department should think fit -  
If Your Lordship should approve of this Plan I begg  
the Goods may be order'd out to Georgia in such Quan-  
-tity and Quality as is Usual.-

The presents which were order'd to West Florida  
I imagine will be now Order'd to Georgia - I beg Your  
Lordship will excuse the incorrectness of this Letter as  
I am Writing it among a Crowd of Indians whom I  
must Answer Alternately - Many of them seems to  
Want to Visit the Spaniards to get Taffia and Amu-  
-nition as they say - Others are inclined to go to Augusta  
to Visit Colonel Brown who it seems has sent for <sup>some</sup>  
/them. But they say the Rebels has again shut up  
the Path to Georgia - They are really an Insolent W-  
-ering Set Most of them.-

I have the Honor to be.-

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Humble and

Most Obedient Servant

Alex<sup>r</sup> Cameron.

Copy

Instructions to David Gilt Esq: deputy Super-  
intendant of Indian Affairs in the Creek Nation.

[p. 35]

By Colonel John Stuart Superintendent of  
Indian Affairs for the Southern district of North  
America &c Given at Pensacola 1<sup>st</sup> February 1779-

Sir

Agreeable to the Instructions and Orders which  
I have received, particular parts whereof I herewith  
communicate to you, for your Government - I am to re-  
quire of you forthwith to proceed to your Station in the  
Upper Creek Nation, and upon your Arrival to deliver the  
inclosed talk from me to such principal Chiefs as you  
shall find at home -

You will use your utmost Endeavour to collect  
and march a Body of Indians to Augusta agreeable to  
the Order from His Excellency the Commander in Chief,  
of which you have herewith a copy -

You will provide horses provisions and other  
Necessaries which you shall judge requisite for fore-  
warding the Service, for which your bills upon me  
accompanied by the necessary receipts and / Vouchers  
shall be accepted -

[p. 36]

You will upon the easiest & best terms En-  
deavour to engage all the white Men traders and pack-  
horsemen in the Nation to accompany you, whom you



will put under the direction of proper persons and employ them in conducting the Indians -

You have herewith a copy of Lieut Colonel Campbells declaration upon his landing which you will cause to be copied & distributed by confidential people amongst the well affected inhabitants, and you will give every encouragement in your power to such persons to join His Majestys Forces under Col. Campbell -

With respect to provisions &c when in the Settlements if you shall find it absolutely necessary to purchase, then you will take the best care you can to procure them upon reasonable terms, and have your Accounts made out in Spanish Milled dollars at the real value of 4/8 each for which I will pay you on Answer your Bills, they being Accompanied with the proper Vouchers -

[27]

Upon your Arrival in the Nation at Augusta or Elsewhere in the Settlements you will endeavour to Open a Correspondence with Lieut Colonel Campbell, and follow to the utmost of your power such directions as he shall send you -

Should you find the back Inhabitants well disposed and ready to join Lieut. Colonel Campbell, then you join such a body of them as you may think equal to the Intreprise, and proceed to join him or in making such a diversion as may favour

his enterprise -

You are farther to use your utmost endeavour  
to procure a sufficient supply of Provisions for the Cherokee-  
that they may have no excuse for passing by the Creek  
Nation as the Sennesee Indians have assured me that  
they would join the Creeks upon this Expedition, provided  
they could be furnished with provisions to carry their  
women and Children home to their Villages -

Signed John Stuart

Endorsed Copy of Instruction / to D. Galt / 1 Feby 1779 / <sup>[200]</sup>  
In Mr Galt's (to H. G.) of / 18 Feb - 7 1781. / (1)



Savannah 14<sup>th</sup> February 1781.

[My Lord]

In consequence of certain intelligence received of a considerable armament being fitted out, and to sail the latter end of January from the Savannah destined against Pensacola, Col<sup>o</sup> Brown immediately dispatched expresses to the Creek Nation requiring the aid of all the Indians to co-operate with General Campbell in the defence of that place. From the present general good disposition of the Nation, and the promises of a number of principal men who have lately been here, and are returned to muster their followers; I have every reason to hope that the Commissioners are now upon their march with a considerable body of braves, to join General Campbell.

Since the reduction of South Carolina the Cherokees have been heartily and unanimously attached to the Kings interest, considerable bodies of them are now out upon the frontiers of North Carolina and Virginia, which will prevent the back inhabitants being drawn off to oppose Lord Cornwallis's progress. A great part of the Rebel settlements upon the Watago and Holstein River have been destroyed by the Cherokees. All the disaffected chiefs visited the Superintendant at

Copy sent to the Secretary.

Augusta, and immediately upon their return to the Nation, assembled their Warriors and marched to attack the Rebel Frontiers. They are to continue upon that service.

A boat with a very considerable supply of Arms, Ammunition and Cloathing for the use of the Indians, was intercepted about forty miles below Augusta, the latter end of December last, by a party of Rebel Banditti, who carried off or destroyed the whole. The Superintendant upon the first intelligence of this disaster, pursued the plunderers with a body of Rangers and Indians - some of them who fell into his hands <sup>[among]</sup> he made proper examples of, and wherever he found any of the goods concealed, he destroyed the settlement - This measure it is hoped will put a stop to plundering in future, and prevent the inhabitants countenancing the plunderers.

Col. Brown owing to excessive fatigue, and the effect of his wounds, received in the defence of Augusta last September, has been for some time in a very indifferent state of health, which has prevented his corresponding regularly with your Lordship. He still commands at Augusta. By an Officer from that post I have just had the pleasure of learning, that he is rather upon the recovery.



I have the honour of being with the  
most perfect respect

My Lord

Your Lordships

most obedient and

most humble servant

Charles Shaw

d<sup>y</sup>. Supt<sup>r</sup> In<sup>n</sup> Aff<sup>r</sup>

The Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> Lord George Germain }  
His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State }  
vca vca vca }

Endorsed Savannah 14<sup>th</sup> Feby 1781 / Mr Shaw / [p. 384]  
(N<sup>o</sup> 6.) / R 25<sup>th</sup> May / Ent<sup>d</sup>

Pensacola 24<sup>th</sup> February 1781

[P. 335.]

My Lord

In the course of the Correspondence, which we had the honor to hold with your Lordship, when acting as Commissioners for Indian Affairs; it became our duty to submit to your Lordship from time to time the state of the Respective Indian Nations within our Departments, to report the disposition and attachment of the Savages, the conduct of our Officers who resided among them, and the necessity of the services on which our expenses were incurred.—

In writing upon the Chickesaw Indians, we did (by our Letter N<sup>o</sup>. 6. dated in July 1779) submit to your Lordship, our having in consequence of the intelligence received, that a party of the Rebels were then actually invading the Cherokee & Chickesaw Nations, sent of M<sup>r</sup>. John M<sup>r</sup>. Intosh our commissary to his Station, with the utmost dispatch ~ And had furnished him with a small quantity of Presents & Ammunition to secure and preserve the Attachment of those Indians to His Majestys Interest. — And as it was absolutely necessary for the support of his influence & authority, and to enable him to gain the earliest intelligence of the motions or designs of the Rebels, that the Eight white men, whom Colonel Stuart had allowed to M<sup>r</sup>. M<sup>r</sup>. Intosh as Scouts, should be continued at the same



pay of ten dollars per month, and one Ration p day  
for such time as he should deem their Services neces-  
sary. - We accordingly in our Letter of Instructions  
to that Officer gave him authority to continue them in  
pay and service. -

Mr. McIntosh has been dead some time; and  
his accounts could not possibly be brought to this place,  
or laid before us by his Son in Law, and Administrator  
Mr. George Group (late of Mobile) untill long after we  
had surrendered our trust to Mr. Cameron and had  
closed our Accounts, because that, His Father died in  
the Chickasaw Country, and that the Spaniards hav-  
ing taken Mobile (where Mr. Group lived) all com-  
munication between Pensacola and that place was  
entirely cut off; nor were any of the British Inhabit-  
ants permitted to retire from Mobile with their pro-  
perty untill within these three last months.

Mr. Group who will have the Honor to pre-  
sent this Letter to your Lordship, will at the same  
time submit the Account for the Pay & Rations of  
those Eight men from the 1<sup>st</sup> of April to the 30<sup>th</sup> of  
Sept<sup>r</sup> 1779 being the time We acted as Commis-  
sioners of Indian Affairs amounting to £160. 16.  
Sterling a copy of which is also inclosed. -

We also beg leave to submit to your Lord-  
ship that Mr. Group when acting as our commissary

of Stores, Presents, and Provisions at Mobile, did in consequence of our directions, advance at different times to the late John Garre, the Chactaw Interpreter at that place: his pay of Seven Shillings & Sixpence per day from the 31<sup>st</sup> of March to 30<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1779. amounting in the whole to Sixty four pounds one Shilling & Sixpence of which account is enclosed And as it could not be brought in before the closing of our Books - for the reasons already mentioned respecting M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Intosh's demand; It becomes our indispensable duty in justice to M<sup>r</sup> Group to recommend him to your Lordships patronage in the strongest terms, in order to procure payment of those two accounts, which appear to us to be strictly just.

We have the Honor to be with the greatest respect / My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient and

most humble servants

And<sup>rs</sup> Ramsford

Jn<sup>o</sup> Mitchell

Robert Tait

Alex<sup>r</sup> Macullagh

Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> Lord George Germain

Endorsed Pensacola 24<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup> 1781. / M<sup>r</sup> Ramsford & Co late / Commis<sup>rs</sup> for Indian Affairs. / R<sup>d</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> May. / (2 Enclosures.) / Enc<sup>d</sup>



Cuplicate

Charlestown 9<sup>th</sup> August 1781

[p. 106]

My Lord

I have the honor to inform your Lordship of my arrival here for the purpose of effecting my exchange after the reduction of the Post at Augusta

A copy of my report to the commanding Officer of this district I take the liberty to transmit for your Lordship's information

The absence of the Indians at that critical juncture was particularly unfortunate

The breaches from an extraordinary concurrence of events arrived at Hogeshee (about 1500) the day on which we were obliged to capitulate and the Cherokeees from the superior force of the Rebels were incapable of effecting a junction with us

[p. 106]

The copies of Major Genl: Campbell's Letters which I had the honor of sending your Lordship will sufficiently explain the cause of this misfortune should they arrive safe, but as it is out of my power to transmit duplicates having destroyed all my papers at Augusta it will not be improper to recapitulate the substance of his correspondence with me and the Indian Commissioners

On the first notice of an Expedition against Pensacola the breaches were enabled by the General's Orders had prepared their Provision and were ready

to march, an account being received that the Spanish  
fleet had been dispersed in a storm and had returned  
to the Havannah to refit he directed the Commissaries  
to keep the Indians in readiness near their Towns -  
a short time had elapsed the General had intelli-  
[2007] -gence the Spaniards were preparing for a second  
Expedition and ordered the Commissaries to collect  
and send down the Indians to his assistance with-  
out loss of time The Indians marched in consid-  
erable force some distance from the Nation but the  
General having received an Express that a reinforce-  
ment was on the point of sailing from Jamaica  
immediately sent to the Commissaries to inform  
them of this event and that there would be no fur-  
ther necessity for marching the Indians to Pensacola,  
part therefore returned to their hunting Grounds  
and about 1000 headed by Emistisichs Chief of the  
bricks well provided with Ammunition set off to  
War against the Rebel Banditti of Long Island,  
Ohio, Waloga and Holstein

Not many Days had passed when the  
Spaniards appeared off Pensacola - the General  
[12000] repeated his first Orders; the War parties had  
marched too far to be recalled and the hunting  
parties were too much dispersed to be readily  
assembled in force - such as the Commissaries



could collect marched but arrived too late to render any essential service at Pensacola and were too distant to return in proper time to our assistance at Augusta.

The loss of these posts I am apprehensive will be of much prejudice to our Interest as the temporary loss of Trade will sensibly distress the Indians; no Merchant remains who is in a capacity to supply the different Indian Tribes and our present stock of Presents from the losses we have sustained by the capture of three Boats loaded with Indian Merchandize is totally insufficient for that purpose

Your Lordships will therefore be pleased / to <sup>[in seq]</sup> grant me such supplies in future as are necessary for the public service until their Trade is restored and adequate to the present emergency - The Saddlebag of the last Cargo was taken for the use of the King's Troops by the Commandant of Charleston and 250 Stand of Arms with 500 lb of Ammunition delivered to the Governor of Georgia on the late Invasion by the Rebels

About one half of the last Cargo remains in Store part of which I shall be under the necessity of delivering to the use of such Tribes under the direction of Mr. Cameron who remain in His Majesty's Interest

Mr. Cameron is now in Savannah in a very infirm state of health

The Spaniards will undoubtedly avail themselves of events so favourable to them and exert their utmost efforts by promises and presents to corrupt the fidelity of our Indian Allies - The the National antipathy of the Indians to the Spaniards (the Town of Choctaws excepted) will be almost an insuperable obstacle to the designs of Don Galvez yet I have not neglected the proper and necessary steps to frustrate any attempts injurious to his Majesty's Service -

The Cherokeees in the course of service have suffered considerably from the Rebel Banditti settled across the Mountains the country they occupy is extensive and the Numbers not only formidable but daily increasing Some Thousands have fled with Plunder from the different Provinces to this asylum [p. 211] of Murderers and house thieves / others impatient of restraint and to avoid being draughted in the Continental Service have followed their example - their present strength from Pennsylvania to the Southward may be estimated at Ten Thousand capable of bearing Arms, they are in general well provided with Horses and plentifully supplied with Ammunition from Virginia - Hurried by Poverty they make incursions into the settlements of the Loyalists commit the most wanton barbarities plunder the peaceable Inhabitants cut off our Supplies and harass



our Outposts

To divert their attention from these objects to their more immediate concern the Cherokees and a detachment from the upper Creeks have been constantly on service against them and have compelled them to abandon a vast extent of country. / The rapid pro-<sup>[p. 512]</sup>gress and success of My Lord Cornwallis will tend in a great measure to deprive these Banditti of their Military resources and enable the Indians to act with greater effect against them. —

By Letters from the Indian Nation I am informed that the situation of the Inhabitants at the Natches is truly distressing — Strangers to the fate of Pensacola they assembled under the command of Mr. John Blammant captured several Boats on the River Mississippi with Military Stores — Having provided themselves with Arms and Ammunition they laid siege to Fort Panmure and obliged Mons<sup>r</sup>. De La Ville Boeuf to capitulate on terms

This Enterprise will expose the resentment of the Spaniards, to avoid they have applied for a safe conduct through the Indian Nation, which the Commissaries will grant with every necessary assistance to them and their families.

I have the honor to be My Lord / with true respect.

Your Lordship's most Obedient & most hble st

Tho Brown.

[1567]  
Endorsed Charles Town 9<sup>th</sup> August 1781. / Colonel Browne /  
Rx 30<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup>. / (Dup - Orig<sup>l</sup> not recd.) / Ent'd



[p. 56]

Savannah April 6<sup>th</sup> 1782.

My Lord

I have the honor to inclose to Your Lordship  
 copies of letters received from Governor Wright & Lt Col =  
 onel Clarke, with mine to His Excellency Sir Henry  
 Clinton relative to indian concerns, from whence your  
 Lordship may form a proper judgement of the state  
 of indian affairs to that time —

Since that period the indians have been em-  
 ployed against the Spaniards in West Florida and  
 the rebels on the Ohio settlements and frontiers of the  
 different provinces, but through want of sufficient  
 supplies of ammunition &c. I am sorry to say their  
 efforts however vigorous & spirited have not been pro-  
 ductive of any other essential advantage than pre-  
 venting any very considerable reinforcements from  
 the back country to Green's Army.

The Spaniards have been baffled in repeated  
 attempts to seduce the Creeks from His Majesty's  
 service, being constantly harassed by the indians  
 the garrison can draw no subsistence from the country — [p. 56]

The Cherokees have been warmly engaged in  
 every quarter with various fortune — The manly spirited  
 perseverance of this nation under every difficulty & loss  
 adds much to their character —

Inclosed I have the honor to transmit to Your

Lordships a Talk from one of the principal warriors of the Cherokees (the Raven of Chotie) - the wanton bloody outrages, therein mentioned, committed by the rebels on such unfortunate indian women & children as have fallen in the course of the war into their hands have been truly barbarous & more than savage -

The numerous banditti settled across the mountains on the different branches of the river Ohio, in the spring, summer & beginning of winter assemble in force & march against the Cherokee towns, & when aided by the rebel forces from the frontiers of the southern provinces commonly prove an overmatch for the Cherokees -

The Cherokees, in return by repeated incursions oblige all the inhabitants over the mountains to live in blockhouses for their security -

[559]

The superiority of the rebel cavalry / in this province (it would be improper for me to say the inactivity of the Troops) prevents our sending any supplies of ammunition so by the usual route - This obstruction, I hope, will be shortly removed, if not, our indian interest will be materially injured, as the Cherokees will not only be unprovided with ammunition for the purposes of war but their own defence -

Three hundred Cherokees, I understand, are on the path from the nation, as a guard to the pack-houses to the southward of Alatomaha river -



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At the requisition of Lt Col<sup>d</sup> Clarke & Governor Wright I shall send for them round by water to cooperate with the garrison -

The prospect of a considerable expense which will be thereby incurred, for their subsistence, from the scarcity & advanced price of provisions gives me great concern - I hope their services if employed will be adequate to the expense which on most occasions however necessary I am sorry to observe, is burthen: some & frequently subjects me to the difficulties I have / particularly mentioned in my letter to His <sup>[p 22]</sup> Excellency Sir Henry Clinton -

The annual supply of indian presents addressed to Governor Wright was delivered to him - but as His Excellency conceived that the indians in the southern district were immediately under the direction & command of the General of the district & Superintendant of indian affairs who are supposed to be unconnected with any particular province & unbiased by local attachments, he delivered them into the indian store to be distributed, under their direction -

In my letter to Sir Henry Clinton, I mentioned that the separation of the Chaatawa & Chickasaws from the Creek Cherokee & Catawbas had created great jealousy & ill blood amongst

the different tribes, so as to prevent me in a great measure from calling forth the resources of the indians collectively; as an union of force would certainly be a desirable event & would enable me to give essential aid to His Majesty's forces in the southern district & prevent the frontier banditti of the different provinces from joining the rebel army -

The superintendant Mr. Cameron being deceased the tribes on the Mississippi since the fall of Pemmola can only be supplied through the Creeks; should your Lordship be pleased to approve of it, I shall cheerfully undertake to manage their concerns & relieve government of a heavy unnecessary expence - For as it has been my wish & study to promote the service of Government to the best of my abilities; the salary His Majesty has been graciously pleased to confer on me, I shall ever esteem a sufficient compensation for any additional trouble, I may have in the public service - for whenever the indian tribes fall under the direction of unmilitary men for whom they have the most sovereign contempt, no essential advantage can be expected from their service -

I have taken the liberty of drawing upon The Rt Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Lords of The Treasury for the amount of last years ordinary estimate in favour of Mess<sup>rs</sup> Graham & Simpson (for 1955 £ sterling)



which I hope their Lordships will be pleased  
to honor ~

I have the honor to be

My Lord, Your Lordships  
most obedient & most humble servt

Y<sup>rs</sup> Brown Sup<sup>t</sup>

Indian Affairs

The R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup>

Lord George Germaine

&c &c &c

Endorsed Savannah 6<sup>th</sup> April 1782. / M<sup>r</sup> Y<sup>rs</sup> [2.22]

Brown / Superintendant for Indian / Affairs. /

R<sup>x</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> May 1782. / Three Inclosures

[p. 75]

Saint Augustine May 15<sup>th</sup> 1783

Substance of Talks delivered at a conference by the  
Indians to His Excellency Governor Jomyn Brig.  
General M<sup>c</sup> Arthur and the Superintendant  
"Okageige ~ on behalf of himself and the Flint River  
Indians (is brother)

The Spaniards formerly lived here - they were  
the Enemies to the Great King - the English put wea-  
pons into our hands - we used them as men and we  
never intend to turn our backs on our friends

We have heard that the Great King intends  
to throw away this Land - we have given our hands  
to the English agreeable to the Talks we have received  
We took up the Hatchet for the English, at a time  
we could scarce distinguish our friends from our foes

We joined the King's Warriors and have Loss-  
ed in the service a number of our People

The King and his Warriors have told us they  
never would forsake us ~ Is the Great King conquered  
or does he mean to abandon us? - or does he intend  
to sell his friends as slaves, or only give our Lands  
| to his and our Enemies

Do you think we can turn our faces to our  
Enemies and ask a favour from them - no if he has  
any Land to receive us (we will not return to our  
Enemies but go to it with our friends in such



ships as he may send for us

Let the Great King have our talk - we will not take our Enemies by the hand but accompany our friends

Fire Bones King of the Powhatan on behalf of himself and upper Creeks

I approve of what the warrior has said  
My father told me the English were friends to our People, I took them by the hand - I now look to them as friends

The old beloved Men informed me that the Warriors of my town first joined the English as Men and friends - that they gave them Lands and became one flesh - that they considered their Enemies as their own - that in all their wars either against Indians Spaniards or Virginians <sup>[77]</sup> they assisted them / that they often took prisoners whom the English redeemed and had children by them who live amongst us - do the English mean to abandon their own children with their friends - why will they turn their backs upon us and forsake us - we never expected that men and Warriors our friends would throw us into the hands of our Enemies - we hope as our fathers you will tell us if it is so

Had ever any madman amongst my

people plotted any mischief against you as your friend  
 I would have informed you - I hope then you will not  
 hide the truth from us - Is it the Great King's talk that  
 we be left in distress - I hope he will inform us - If the  
 English mean to abandon the Land. we will accom-  
 pany them - We cannot take a Virginian or Spaniard  
 by the hand we cannot look them in the face

Our old beloved man (Colonel Stuart) told us  
 that when he died the King would give us another  
 (Colonel Brown) he has done it and we were satisfied

/After an answer was returned to the above [p. 700]  
 Talks The long warrior of the Cowetas desired. that the  
 Governor, General M<sup>c</sup>Arthur and the Superintendent  
 would inform the Great King that if he meant to  
 throw away the Land - to send Oseels to take them  
 off as they were determined to follow their friends

Yho. Brown & J. Affairs

Endorsed In Suprint.<sup>t</sup> Brown's / of 1<sup>st</sup> June 1789. / (N<sup>o</sup>. 2.)



[107]

Substance of a Talk from the Chiefs of the upper  
 Creeks to Lieut Colonel Thomas Brown Superin-  
 tendant of Indian Affairs ~

Yaltonie december 30<sup>th</sup> 1783.

The Virginians have sent a Talk to inform  
 us that the Great King's beloved Men have buried  
 the Hatchet and sent a white Wing with a Peace  
 Talk to all their Enemies and that to secure their  
 own Land and families they have given up ours to  
 them and the Spaniards ~

This is a Virginia Lye - We remember what  
 you have told us that the Great King would never  
 throw away his red Children but keep the Path open  
 and White betwixt us and the English

[We know the English are our friends they  
 ever supplied our wants when the War ruined our  
 Trade - The Widows and Children of those who  
 fell have been fed and clothed and scarce remem-  
 bered their Loss

We are now in great distress - Our hearts  
 are heavy - Our beloved Whitemen have left the  
 Land - You whom the Great King has appointed  
 our father - Know that we never smoked the Pipe  
 of friendship with the Enemies of the Great King -  
 Our fathers told us that the English were Men ~

that their hearts were good and their Arms Strong  
We believed them ~ You tell us that the Sun is  
darkened - that you have received a Talk from  
the Great Council fire and that you believe the Eng-  
lish will cross the Great Water

Father - We know you will not tell a Lie -  
If this is the Talk, we will follow our friends - for  
whilst we live we will not take a Spaniard or  
Virginian by the hand

[... movement see ante p. 846.]